

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 20467 01 OF 02 251800Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
ICAE-00 INRE-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 EB-08 SMS-01  
/073 W

-----110306 251814Z /45

O 251747Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6064  
INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 20467

USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, BGEN, UR  
SUBJECT: CRAWFORD PRESS CONFERENCE, MOSCOW AUG. 25

SUMMARY: F. JAY CRAWFORD MET WITH MEMBERS OF MOSCOW  
U.S. PRESS AUGUST 25 FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES. HE REITER-  
ATED HIS INNOCENCE OF SOVIET ALLEGATIONS, SAID EVIDENCE  
WAS INCONCLUSIVE AND DISTORTED, AND ASSERTED THAT  
INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER IS FIRMLY BEHIND HIM. HE SAID  
HE HAD UNDERGONE TOTAL OF 17 HOURS OF INTERROGATION  
DURING PAST TWO DAYS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON  
LINKAGE WITH WOODBRIDGE TWO HE SAID, QUOTE I AM A  
PAWN IN A POLITICAL CHESS GAME. UNQUOTE. END SUMMARY.

1. F. JAY CRAWFORD HELD A 20-MINUTE PRESS CONFERENCE  
FRIDAY (8/25) AT INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER'S MOSCOW  
OFFICE. CONFERENCE WAS VIDEOTAPED BY TWO NETWORKS.  
CRAWFORD APPEARED TIRED AND DRAWN AFTER HIS TWO-DAYS  
OF KGB INTERROGATION (A TOTAL OF OVER 17 HOURS OF  
QUESTIONING). HE BEGAN CONFERENCE WITH STATEMENT THAT  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 20467 01 OF 02 251800Z

KGB HAS REQUESTED HE NOT TALK TO PRESS IN FRONT OF  
LEFORTOVO PRISON, AND THEREFORE HE CALLED MEETING  
TODAY (FRIDAY) AT IH MOSCOW OFFICE. HE SAID THAT KGB  
HAS TOLD HIM HIS TRIAL WILL TAKE PLACE QUOTE VERY SOON  
UNQUOTE AND THAT HE SHOULD REPORT AGAIN TO LEFORTOVO  
TODAY AT 1630 MOSCOW TIME AS WELL AS SUNDAY (AUGUST 27)  
AT 1000. ON SUNDAY HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY SOVIET-

APPOINTED LAWYER. HE ADDED THAT LATEST WORD FROM KGB STATES THAT SUNDAY APPOINTMENT IS TENTATIVE. SOVIETS HAVE TOLD HIM THAT PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATION WILL BE COMPLETED IN NEXT TWO DAYS. CRAWFORD REITERATED HIS INNOCENCE AND REAFFIRMED THAT IH IS QUOTE 100 PERCENT BEHIND ME UNQUOTE. COMPANY HE SAID IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO CLEAR HIM OF UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS, AND THAT IT HAS MADE A COMPLETE AUDIT OF ITS MOSCOW OPERATION WITH NO RPT NO DISCREPANCIES FOUND. HE ADDED THAT EVIDENCE SOVIETS INTEND TO TRY HIM WITH IS QUOTE VERY, VERY INCONCLUSIVE AND DISTORTED UNQUOTE.

2. WHEN ASKED WHAT EVIDENCE HE REFERRED TO, HE REPLIED THAT WHICH PERTAINS TO HOW HE ALLEGEDLY OBTAINED RUBLES AND SPENT THEM. IN RESPONSE TO FOLLOW-UP QUESTION ON WHAT HE WOULD USE LARGE QUANTITY OF RUBLES FOR, HE SAID ALL COMPANY AND MOST OF HIS PERSONAL EXPENSES WERE PAID BY BANK TRANSFERS, HARD CURRENCY CONVERSIONS THROUGH SOVIET BANK, OR SERIES D COUPONS. HE WENT ON TO STATE THAT HE OWNS NONE OF THE ITEMS COMMONLY ASSOCIATED WITH RUBLE PURCHASES (SAMOVARS, ICONS, ETC.) AND SAID HE HAD NO REASON TO USE THE ILLEGAL RUBLES. AT THIS POINT DAN FISHER (LA TIMES) ASKED CRAWFORD TO CLARIFY WHAT ILLEGAL RUBLES HE WAS REFERRING TO, AND CRAWFORD SAID HE MEANT THE CURRENCY HE IS ALLEGED TO HAVE PURCHASED ILLEGALLY, BUT OF COURSE DID NOT IN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 20467 01 OF 02 251800Z

FACT PURCHASE. HE WAS THEN FURTHER QUESTIONED ABOUT NATURE OF DISTORTED EVIDENCE AND REITERATED THAT THIS REFERRED TO HOW HE OBTAINED AND SPENT RUBLES. VAGUE QUESTION NEXT AROSE ABOUT PROSECUTION WITNESSES (SPECIFICALLY, FINKE -AP, REFERRED TO SEAMSTRESS WHO ALLEGEDLY IS INVOLVED IN CASE). CRAWFORD DECLINED TO GO INTO DETAILS ON THIS. AT THIS POINT IH OFFICE DIRECTOR (CHELLMAN) INTERRUPTED TO REMIND PRESS THAT CRAWFORD HAS BEEN UNDER TREMENDOUS STRAIN FOR PAST TWO DAYS, AND REQUESTED THEY GO EASY ON THE RATE OF QUESTIONING.

3. NEXT ROUND OF QUESTIONS INVOLVED LEGAL REPRESENTATION. CRAWFORD STATED HE DID NOT KNOW THE FULL NAME OF THE SOVIET ATTORNEY (POPOV) ASSIGNED TO DEFEND HIM. CRAWFORD SAID HE ASKED THAT AN AMERICAN ATTORNEY BE ALLOWED TO ASSIST AND BE PRESENT WITH HIM, BUT THIS REQUEST WAS DENIED. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY ABOUT US EMBASSY REPRESENTATION ON HIS BEHALF TO OBTAIN AN AMERICAN ATTORNEY, HE SAID EMBASSY HAS BEEN QUOTE VERY HELPFUL UNQUOTE, BUT THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO GET DEEPLY INTO DETAILS AT THIS TIME.

4. WHEN FIRST QUESTIONED ABOUT PARALLEL BETWEEN WOODBRIDGE TWO AND HIMSELF, HE SAID IT WAS QUOTE A GOOD POSSIBILITY UNQUOTE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, HE SAID SOVIET INTERROGATORS HAVE NOT MADE ANY REFERENCE TO ACCUSED SOVIET SPIES IN NEW JERSEY. HE THEN VOLUNTEERED FACT THAT HIS RELEASE TOOK PLACE WITHIN A FEW HOURS OF THEIRS. WHEN THEN ASKED WHAT HE WAS INTERROGATED ABOUT FOR SUCH LONG PERIODS OF TIME DURING THE PAST TWO DAYS HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE SAME QUESTIONS WERE PUT TO HIM OVER AND OVER AGAIN. HIS QUESTIONER (MARSH CLARK - TIME) ASKED RHETORICALLY WHETHER SOVIET INTERROGATION WAS A

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 20467 02 OF 02 251803Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
ICAE-00 INRE-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 EB-08 SMS-01  
/073 W

-----110331 251829Z /45

O 251747Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6065  
INFO USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 20467

CHARADE OR A SERIOUS INVESTIGATION. CRAWFORD, WITHOUT SAYING SO SPECIFICALLY, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT WAS INDEED A CHARADE, AND WENT ON TO STATE QUOTE I'M A PAWN IN A POLITICAL CHESS GAME UNQUOTE. HE THEN WAS ASKED WHY HE WAS PICKED AND NOT SOMEONE FROM HONEYWELL OR IBM, TO WHICH HE REPLIED, HE PERSONALLY FEELS HE WAS SELECTED BECAUSE HE IS A DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE, A SINGLE PERSON, LIVING ALONE FOR TWO YEARS IN A HOTEL, AND AT THE TIME WAS THE ONLY ONE IN THIS CATEGORY AVAILABLE.

5. WHEN QUESTIONED AGAIN ON WOODBRIDGE TWO PARALLEL HE SAID QUOTE IT IS DIFFICULT TO TRADE TWO QUILTY MEN FOR ONE INNOCENT MAN UNQUOTE. AGAIN, ON SAME LINE, HE SAID QUOTE WHAT HAPPENS IN WOODBRIDGE, N.J. HAPPENS TO ME UNQUOTE. THIS CONCLUDED CONFERENCE.

6. COMMENT: PHYSICAL DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS OF INTER-  
ROGATION ARE CLEARLY VISIBLE ON CRAWFORD, AND PRESS  
WAS SYMPATHETIC TO HIS ANXIOUS YET WEARY STATE. ONE  
REPORTER ADVISED EMBOFF THAT CONFERENCE PROVIDED  
GOOD MATERIAL FOR POSITIVE STORY. END COMMENT. TOON  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 20467 02 OF 02 251803Z

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BUSINESSMEN, PRESS CONFERENCES, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MOSCOW20467  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780348-1145  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780823/aaaaatia.tel  
**Line Count:** 182  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 395a755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1621376  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CRAWFORD PRESS CONFERENCE, MOSCOW AUG. 25 SUMMARY: F. JAY CRAWFORD MET WITH MEMBERS OF MOSCOW U.S. PRESS AUGUST 25 FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES. HE REI  
**TAGS:** CASC, BGEN, UR, (CRAWFORD, F JAY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/395a755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014